

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

MARK PAYNE • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

TO: North Carolina Nurse Aide I Training Programs

FROM: Jana Busick, Section Chief

Health Care Personnel Education and Credentialing Section

DATE: February 10, 2023

SUBJECT: Program Modifications Due to COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic led to extraordinary levels of cooperation and coordination amongst the Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR) and training programs to protect public health and safety.

Last month, it was announced that the COVID-19 national and public health emergency will end on May 11, 2023. Previously, on August 15, 2022, North Carolina ended the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Beginning July 1, 2023, DHSR is ending and rescinding all approvals for training program modifications due to COVID-19. Specified COVID-19 program modifications were depicted in memorandums from DHSR dated March 17, 2020, July 17, 2020, October 14, 2020, March 24, 2021, September 17, 2021, and May 6, 2022. Click here to view the memorandums.

For classes in-progress on July 1, 2023, the above guidance goes into effect when the class session ends, but no later than August 15, 2023.

DHSR will remove the following two COVID-19 forms from its website on February 10, 2023.

- Program Adjustment Form Response to COVID-19 (Effective May 6, 2022).
- Program Adjustment Form Response to COVID-19 Skills to be Performed During Clinical Hours in a Laboratory Setting (Effective May 6, 2022).

The following COVID-19 form will remain on the DHSR website until July 1, 2023.

 Program Request Form in Response to COVID-19 for Individual Student (Effective May 6, 2022).

If you experience difficulty finding a clinical site, please contact your <u>Education Consultant</u>. You can also click <u>here</u> to view a list of DHSR licensed healthcare facilities near you.

DHSR is not aware of changes to the state-approved Nurse Aide I competency evaluation administered by Credentia at this time.

As a reminder:

- DHSR must approve clinical sites prior to use by a training program. If you change clinical sites, please submit the Existing Training Program Clinical Site Approval Form that is available on the Education Office website.
- DHSR must approve all faculty prior to use by training programs. If you change
 Instructors or Program Coordinators, please submit the <u>Existing Training Program Faculty Approval Form</u> that is available on the Education Office website.
- If an existing training program, originally approved to offer classroom instruction, is
 interested in offering online instruction, then the training program must submit the
 New Training Program Nurse Aide I Application for a hybrid program for review and
 approval. Approval is dependent on the training program conducting nurse aide training
 in a classroom setting for a minimum of one year prior to the implementation of COVID19 training program adjustments.
 - DHSR has 90 days to review and provide feedback regarding new program applications.
 - DHSR must approve each Instructor prior to classroom or online instruction.

It is the responsibility of the training programs to ensure students meet all federal and state training requirements and regulations and are adequately and sufficiently trained to complete the state-approved competency evaluation.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

cc:

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